GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2582
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
TASK FORCE ON FM RADIO CHANNELS
PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Task Force to consider the problems being faced by FM Radio-channels in view of their increasing losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above said decision is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) By an Order dated 24th July 2003, a committee has been constituted to make recommendations for Radio Broadcasting for Phase − II, whose terms of reference interalia include:

(i) Determining a transparent and effective bidding /auction process to be adopted for allotment of frequencies.

(ii) Assessment of a viable licencee fee structure for the various cities (one time entry fee, fixed licence fees, revenue sharing etc.) to be based on clearly defined parameters.

(iii) Study the desirability and legal implications of making modifications in licensing regime of Phase-I licencees should a different licensing regime be proposed for phase-II.

(iv) Determining the legal implications of the regime which may be proposed vis-Ã -vis the existing one.

Copy of the order giving details of terms of reference may be seen in the Ministry of I&B`s website www.mib.nic.in

(c) The committee has been asked to submit its report by 30th September 2003.